

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 03967 071303Z

46

ACTION COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT, RO

SUBJ: JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION: PREPARATION FOR THIRD SESSION

REF: BUCHAREST 3866

1. SUMMARY. COM/BEWT OFFICER MET WITH MFT OFFICIALS ON JUNE 30 REGARDING PLANNING FOR THIRD SESSION OF COMMISSION. TOPICS DISCUSSED INCLUDED TIMING AND AGENDA OF THIRD SESSION, PREPARATIONS FOR THIRDEKSSION INCLUDING GOR PROPOSAL FOR AN EXPERTS' MEETING IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE THE STATUS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ELECTRONICS AND THE EXPORT CONTROL ISSUE WITH ATTENTION CENTERING ON THE CDC EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION. END SUMMARY.

2. COM/BEWT OFFICER BURGESS MET TWO HOURS ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 30, 1976 WITH MFT OFFICER ACHIM AND M. IORDACHESCU OF GOR EMBASSY-WASHINGTON. RMFT DIRECTOR RVM FOTA JOINED GROUP FOR LATTER HALF OF THE MEETING. THIS MEETING HELD AS A FOLLOW-UP TO MEETING OF JUNE 25, REPORTED BUCH 3866.

3. ACHIM SHOWED BURGESS A LETTER FROM DEPUTY MINISTER PATAN
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 03967 071303Z

TO SECRETARY RICHARDSON REGARDING THE THIRD SESSION OF THE

COMMISSION, WHICH BURGESS WILL HAND CARRY TO WASHINGTON ON THURSDAY. LETTER CONFIRMS NOVEMBER 20-DECEMBER 10 TIMING (CONVEYED BY BEWT DIRECTOR GEORGE--SEE PARA 4 (A) BUCH 3866) AS ACCEPTABLE TO GOR AND NOTES THAT PARTIES WILL DECIDE LATER ON A SPECIFIC DATE. AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY SAID THAT PATAN WOULD LIKE SECRETARY RICHARDSON TO PROPOSE A SPECIFIC DATE NOW FOR THE SESSION. COMMENT: ROMANIANS AGAIN STRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO HAVE SECRETARY RICHARDSON STAY IN ROMANIA FOR MORE THAN A DAY OR TWO (SEE PARA 4 (A) IN BUCH 3866). END COMMENT.

4. LETTER ALSO CONTAINS PROPOSAL FOR CONVENING OF AN EXPERTS' MEETING PRIOR TO COMMISSION ALONG THE LINES OF THAT HELD LAST OCTOBER IN WASHINGTON. EXPERTS' MEETING, AS PROPOSED, WOULD BE HELD IN BUCHAREST PROBABLY AT END OF SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER, BE CHAIRED AT OFFICE DIRECTOR LEVEL AND CONSIST OF 3 OR 4 PEOPLE FROM WASHINGTON. CITING LAST OCTOBER'S MEETING AS A PRECEDENT, FOTA STRESSED THE BENEFITS OF SUCH A MEETING AS PREPARATION FOR THE COMMISSION (I.E. TO FINALIZE THE AGENDA, BEGIN DRAFTING THE AGREED MINUTE, ETC.). WHEN PRESSED, FOTA DID NOT PRECLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING THIS EXPERTS' MEETING IN WASHINGTON BUT CITED RECIPROCITY IN FAVORING BUCHAREST. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR TAKES VIEW THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD BE USEFUL IF THERE ARE CONCRETE TRADE PROBLEMS TO DISCUSS THAT CANNOT BE DEALT WITH THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS, NOT JUST TO PREPARE FOR THE COMMISSION. HE BELIEVES WE SHOULD REVIEW CURRENT U.S.-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SITUATION TO SEE WHETHER SUCH AN EXPERTS' MEETING IS WORTHWHILE. WE ARE REPORTING SEPARATELY SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION REGARDING THIS EXPERTS' MEETING. END COMMENT.

5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE WAS DISCUSSED AND ROMANIANS AGAIN STRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO HAVE LIST OF QUESTIONS FROM BEWT RE GUIDE FOR BUSINESSMEN (SEE PARA 3 (D) BUCH 3866) BY THE END OF JULY. BURGESS INDICATED HE HAD CONTACTED WASHINGTON (SEE BUCH 3916) AND THAT HE WOULD TRY TO HAVE THE QUESTIONS TO THE WORKWHEN. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT A CONTINUING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION REGARDING BOTH ON-GOING AND NEW COMMERCIAL PROJECTS, BEING CARRIED OUT DURING BURGESS' VISIT, WAS VERY USEFUL.

6. DISCUSSION REGARDING AN AGENDA FOR THE THIRD SESSION WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUCHAR 03967 071303Z

BEGUN, BASED ON AGENDA OF THE SECOND SESSION. MOST OF THE TOPICS FROM LAST YEAR, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE BUSINESS FACILITATION, EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, AND TRADE PROMOTION AREAS, ARE PERENNIAL AND SHOULD BE RETAINED. A NEW ITEM WHICH ROMANIANS WISH TO ADD IS THAT OF "TECHNICAL COOPERATION". THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN EMPHASIZED DURING THE URSU VISIT TO WASHINGTON, THE PATENT DELEGATION VISIT TO BUCHAREST, AND MOST RECENTLY DURING THE ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING. OTHER POSSIBLE NEW TOPICS DISCUSSED

INCLUDED "EXPORT CONTROLS", "MARKET DISRUPTION," AND "DELEGATION VISITS." FOTA NOTED THAT THE GOR WOULD DRAFT A PROPOSED AGENDA AND SUBMIT IT TO US BY THE END OF JULY.

7. WORKING GROUPS WERE DISCUSSED AS A LIKELY AGENDA ITEM. IT WAS NOTED THAT BURGESS HAD MET AND WOULD CONTINUE TO MEET WITH GOR OFFICIALS REGARDING THE PROPOSED THIRD COUNTRY WORKING GROUP AND ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP. FOTA EMPHASEIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LATTER WORKING GROUP BEFORE THE THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION.

8. DISCUSSION OF EXPORT CONTROLS FOCUSED ON THE CDC LICENSE APPLICATION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 3 STATE 148969 EMBASSY HAD TRANSMITTED LETTER TO MFT JUNE 17 POSING QUESTIONS RAISED IN CABLE. ACHIM'S WRITZYN RESPONSE, WHICH BURGESS WILL HAND CARRY BACK TO OEA OPERATING COMMITTEE, SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED. ROMANIANS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF EXPORT LICENSE AS TOPIC DURING VISIT OF SECRETARY SIMON AND AGAIN STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SECURING THIS LICENSE TO FUTURE OF ROM CONTROL DATA JOINT VENTURE. BARNES

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